

Youth and Police Initiative

Program Description



YPI INDIVIDUAL TRAINING – EXPERIENCE THE PROGRAM

If your community organization and/or Police Department is interested in experiencing a YPI without engaging in a Train-the-Trainer Program, you can do so by participating in a YPI individual training led by one of our Master Trainers. Over the course of 7 sessions -- including a graduation ceremony and one follow-up online reunions -- youth participants and local police officers engage in discussions, games, and role plays to build their public speaking and facilitation skills, get to know each other on a personal level, and learn from each other.

The goal of a YPI individual training is to breakdown stereotypes and start building trust between youth and police in neighborhoods with high rates of arrests, gun crime, and citizen complaints towards police. By inviting participants to share their stories and engage in meaningful conversations, YPI aims to replace negative perceptions with understanding, in order for youth and police participants to ultimately define and develop new ways to interact with each other. The YPI training is highly structured yet based on high level of participants' involvement to create a shared sense of ownership. Participating youth receive a stipend to value their time and contributions to the success of each session.

For an in-person individual training, up to 15 youth and 8 officers get together for five 2.5-hour long sessions, a graduation ceremony and one follow-up reunion meeting. For an online individual training, up to 8 youth and 5 officers get together over the course of six 2-hour long sessions, plus a graduation and one follow-up reunion session.

If, by the end of your individual training, you are interested in a Train-the-Trainer program to build local training capacity to continue YPI at greatly reduced costs, we can tailor a program to meet your needs.

YPI TRAIN-THE-TRAINER - FOCUS ON LOCAL CAPACITY BUILDING

The Train-the-Trainer model was created for Police Departments and/or community organizations to develop internal capacity to offer the YPI training on a regular basis once they successfully complete the Train-the-Trainer program. This licensed approach will certify your local team of up to six trainers over the course of four separate YPI trainings.

The trainer candidates will receive additional preparation and training as a part of the program to focus on their skill development. YPI requires all certified training teams to use its copyrighted training manual and survey instruments to maintain fidelity to the approach. Certified trainers will have the opportunity to join regular online YPI Trainer workshops during which they will receive additional training, attend presentation by experts on subjects relevant to YPI, share bests practices with trainers from different cities, and troubleshoot challenges they might have encountered with a team of experienced trainers.

Included in the costs are planned and on-call coaching services to help your training team gain the necessary skills and knowledge to lead a YPI program, maintain excellence, and achieve outcomes. The trainer candidates will gain proficiency as YPI trainings are being implemented in your community, resulting in a group of youth graduating while certifying local trainers. The YPI Train-the-Trainer model is available both in-person or online. Communities and local law enforcement departments that wish to share the cost have the option to come together to implement the model together.

YPI FOLLOW-UP - INVEST IN LONG-TERM STRATEGIES

Research has shown the importance of long-term commitments and sustaining positive relationships between youth and officers. For this reason, along with continued involvement with local law enforcement, YPI has partnered with different organizations throughout the years to co-create and offer follow-up programming such as youth summits, mentoring programs, leadership training, youth facilitation workshops, and arts-focused programs.

Key components of the online version of YPI have proven highly efficient at keeping YPI cohorts connected at the end of their program. Consequently, local groups who chose to follow the in-person Train-the-Trainer model will still have the opportunity to acquire some of the online skills needed to facilitate such follow-up online encounters if desired.

CREATE YOUR OWN YPI PLAN – CONTACT US TODAY!

The YPI team is always available to help your community create your own plan to implement YPI. Throughout the process, the YPI team can support your efforts to create meaningful and long-lasting connections with local organizations to ultimately strengthen the community networks in place to improve youth and police relations. Book a free introductory meeting with our team by sending an email to yip.inquiry@gmail.com.



YPI graduation, Boston, MA